

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 056692

73

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-11 AID-05

IGA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB:GBROBERTS:CB

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HABIB

L/EA:PNORTON (DRAFT)

L:GALDRICH (DRAFT)

PM/ISO:GCHURCHILL (DRAFT)

DOD/ISA:LT. COL. KING

NSC:TBARNES

S/S - FVORTIZ

----- 049740

O R 090046Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO COMUSMACTHAI

SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

CSAF

CSA

CNO

CINCPACAF

DIRNSA

S E C R E T STATE 056692

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, TH, US

SUBJECT: STATUS OF U.S. RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE IN  
THAILAND

REFS: A. BANGKOK 2393, B. BANGKOK 2395, C. BANGKOK 2396,  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 056692

D. BANGKOK 2502, E. BANGKOK 3025, F. BANGKOK 4077,

G. BANGKOK 4894, H. BANGKOK 5023 (ALL NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE NOW OBTAINED CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORIZATION ON NEGOTIATING WITH THE THAI THE STATUS OF OUR U.S. RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE. WE COMPLETED CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS MARCH 4. A SEPARATE TELEGRAM WILL ADDRESS THA-E MANNER IN WHICH YOU SHOULD PRESENT TO THE RTG OUR STANCE ON THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES THAT THE THAI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTED TO US (REF C).

2. OUR PROPOSED REJOINDER IS DESIGNED TO DEFLECT THE THAI FROM FOCUSING SOLELY ON THAI JURISDICTION, AND WE PROPOSE TO MEET THEIR NEEDS BY EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THAI SOVEREIGNTY WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT MORE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLES WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT CONCERNING OUR FUTURE PRESENCE.

3. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO IMPRESS UPON THE THAI THAT THE ONLY PRACTICAL COURSE IS TO SEEK AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES WHILE MAINTAINING IN FORCE ALL TRADITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL SUPERSEDED BY NEW ONES. THE STATUS OF TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IS MORE ORDINARY AND APPROPRIATE FOR SMALL SPECIALIZED AND TECHNICAL UNITS SUCH AS THOSE WE HAVE IN MIND TO MAINTAIN IN THAILAND THAN FORMAL STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS. THE LATTER IMPLY LARGE DEPLOYMENTS OF COMBAT FORCES. MOREOVER, A RETURN TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE 1950 AGREEMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH RTG ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT THE EXPANDED U.S. FORCES HAVE NOW BEEN WITHDRAWN.

4. THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED SET OF PRINCIPLES GIVES MAXIMUM RECOGNITION TO THE THAI FORMAT WHILE MEETING OUR MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE NEEDS:

A. U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT IN THAILAND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT, AND ALL AGREEMENTS GOVERNING THEIR OPERATIONS AND  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 056692

ACTIVITIES SHALL CONTINUE TO ACCORD PROPER RESPECT FOR THAI SOVEREIGNTY.

B. THESE FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL SHALL BE EMPLOYED FOR PURPOSES WHICH HAVE BEEN MUTUALLY AGREED AND WHICH SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND SHALL BE DIRECTED TOWARD THE MUTUALLY AGREED GOALS OF PROMOTING INTERNA-

TIONAL PEACE, SECURITY, AND JUSTICE.

C. IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND ENDEAVOR, REPORTS OF THE ACTIVITIES INVOLVING FACILITIES OPERATED BY U.S. PERSONNEL IN THAILAND, INCLUDING INFORMATION AND DATA DERIVED FROM SUCH ACTIVITIES, SHALL BE COMMUNICATED REGULARLY TO THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT UNDER MUTUALLY AGREED PROCEDURES.

D. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE TRAINING PROGRAMS ON ITS FACILITIES IN THAILAND IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A MUTUALLY DESIRED PARTICIPATION BY THAI PERSONNEL IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FACILITIES.

E. THE AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF U.S PERSONNEL OPERATING FACILITIES IN THAILAND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT PROPOSED INCREASES IN THE AUTHORIZED LEVELS SHALL BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSULTATIONS AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

F. U.S. PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE FACILITIES IN THAILAND SHALL BE ACCORDED THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES GRANTED BY THE 1950 MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

FALLBACK 1: U.S. PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE FACILITIES IN THAILAND SHALL BE ACCORDED THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES WHICH ARE CUSTOMARILY ACCORDED UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW TO THE TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL OF FOREIGN EMBASSIES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 056692

FALLBACK 2: THE ROYAL THAI AND U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT SPECIFYING THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO BE ACCORDED TO U.S. PERSONNEL OPERATING FACILITIES IN THAILAND. PENDING THE CONCLUSION OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT, U.S. PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE FACILITIES IN THAILAND SHALL BE ACCORDED THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES WHICH ARE CUSTOMARILY ACCORDED UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW TO THE TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL OF FOREIGN EMBASSIES. (FYI: WE WOULD NEED FAR MORE COMPREHENSIVE ARRANGEMENTS THAN THE FAIR TRIAL UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED WITH THE RTG IN 1968, WHICH PERTAINED ONLY TO CRIMINAL JURISDICTION. END FYI.)

G. ALL AGREEMENTS PERTAINING TO THE COOPERATION OF THE ROYAL THAI AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS ON THE OPERATION AND

PERSONNEL OF U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES IN THAILAND SHALL  
BE REVIEWED EVERY FIVE YEARS. THE AGREEMENTS MAY BE  
TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY WITH ONE YEAR'S NOTICE.

5. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO REJECT THE CONCEPT OF THE  
SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS IN ANY OF THE FACILITIES PENDING  
THE CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATION OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES.  
ADDITIONALLY, YOU SHOULD IMPRESS UPON THE THAI THAT THE  
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT WISH TO  
MAINTAIN FACILITIES IN THAILAND WHICH CANNOT BE OPERATED  
EFFECTIVELY FOR THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY ARE THERE. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, MILITARY PLANS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE056692  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GBROBERTS:CB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760088-0139  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760379/aaaacrzo.tel  
**Line Count:** 180  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BANGKOK 2393, 76 BANGKOK 2395, 76 BANGKOK 2396  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS OF U.S. RESIDUAL MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND  
**TAGS:** MILI, MARR, TH, US  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006